

ROMANS 67 – 16:18-20

Good Words and Fair Speeches

1. 16:17-18

- a. Marking/avoiding is hard because it requires the courage of expressed conviction
- b. Bad reasons to separate: personalities, politics, disagreements, murmurings
- c. The division maker is wrong, but the division marker gets hated – Gal 4:16
- d. Paul wishes some were cut off for the wrong doctrine they taught – Gal 5:7-12
- e. Serving the Lord may mean contention, offence, and dispute – Acts 9:29, 15:1-2
 - i. Paul contends and disputes for the gospel – Acts 17:17, 19:8-9, 1 Thess 2:2
- f. *“serve not the Lord”* – they would have you avoid hardship – Gal 6:12-15
 - i. Not glorying in the cross is a shame - Phil 3:17-19
 - ii. Religious people who love pleasure more than God - 2 Tim 3:4-5

2. “Good Words and Fair Speeches” – Col 2:3-8 2

- a. The way to subvert is with fair speeches, eloquence, niceties, and deceit.
- b. Fair speeches deceive simple hearts. Sometimes we need to ‘shoo’ the flies.
- c. Wrong doctrine subverts the hearers, it must be stopped – Titus 1:10-11, 3:8-11
- d. You should not be able to fellowship with everyone, not all have faith 2 Cor 6:14
- e. The church should care about the weaker brother - 1 Cor 8:12, 10:23-24, 12:25
- f. Stand and be counted! Be fully persuaded! Be ye separate!

3. 16:19-20

- a. *“obedience”* – Rom 1:5, Rom 6:17; *“is come abroad”* – Rom 1:8, 1 Thess 1:8
- b. Paul wanted them to be mature men, but not experienced in evil - 1 Cor 14:20
- c. To discern evil requires we exercise our senses – Heb 5:13-14, Eph 4:14
- d. *“simple concerning evil”* – to be separate and warned - Col 1:28, 1Ti 4:1-6, Eph 5:7
 - i. We are not ignorant of Satan’s devices – 2 Cor 2:11
 - ii. Doubt God, self-improvement, using God’s words against him – all lies.
- e. *“bruise Satan”* – done by keeping peace acc. to Rom 12:18, 14:19, 16:17-19.
 - i. Who is Satan? Satan has ministers – 2 Cor 11:14-15
 - ii. Satan is god of this world = 1 Cor 5:5, 2 Cor 4:4, Gal 1:4, Eph 5:16
 - iii. Satan’s messages coming from our flesh – 2 Cor 12:7
 - iv. Satan coming from those that cause divisions – 1 Thess 2:8
- f. *“God of peace”* – it comes from avoiding evil holding fast to the good, doing God’s will of your sanctification (separated unto God) – 1 Thess 5:21-23